

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS:

President Ford
Edward Pangelinan, Chairman of Northern
Marianas Political Status Commission
Senator P. A. Tenorio, Northern Marianas
Senator
James M. Wilson, Jr., Deputy Representative
for Micronesian Status Negotiations
Lt. General Brent Scowcroft, Deputy Assistant
to the President for National Security Affairs

DATE AND TIME:

Wednesday, March 19, 1975
4:15 p.m.

PLACE:

The Oval Office

Pangelinan: We are very pleased to have the opportunity to exercise our rights under the UN Trusteeship Council and have a plebiscite.

President: We are pleased at this development and we trust that the plebiscite will be favorable. Where are you two from?

Tenorio: We both are from Saipan.

President: What are the Islands in the Northern Marianas?

Tenorio: Saipan forms Tinian and Rota.

President: What is the population?

Tenorio: About 14,000. Most of the people live on Saipan.

Wilson: They live in a very beautiful place. I was in Tinian and saw the plaques during World War II.

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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5
NSC Memo, 11/24/98, State Dept. Guidelines
By HR, NARA, Date 10/7/99
~~TOP SECRET~~ XGDS (3)
CLASSIFIED BY: HENRY A. KISSINGER

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Pangelinan: Those of us are very pleased you have given us your attention, and of all the countries of the world we want to join with you. We are very proud to be part of your political system.

President: We are very pleased. Do you expect any trouble with the plebiscite?

Tenorio: There are some dissident groups but we think it will be okay.

Wilson: But you will have to work at it because the other Marianas will oppose it as hurting them.

Tenorio: Yes. But we know what we want and we must make sure only our plebiscite counts.

Pangelinan: You should know the Senator is from one party and I from the other.

President: Have you been in the United States?

Pangelinan: I went to George Washington University.

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